

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ASUNCI 04913 011955Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 /045 W  
-----022966 020557Z /11  
R 011935Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1717

UNCLAS ASUNCION 4913

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM, PA  
SUBJ: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S INTEREST IN JAILED DOCTORS

1. USIS WIRELESS FILE ARF 28 OF NOVEMBER 29 SUMMARIZES A WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE OF THAT DATE REPORTING THAT AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL HAS BEGUN A CAMPAIGN TO PUBLICIZE THE FATE OF MEDICAL DOCTORS IMPRISONED IN A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES FOR POLITICAL REASONS. THE ARTICLE LISTS THREE PARAGUAYAN PHYSICIANS: CESAR CUBILLAS; VICTOR SALINAS TOTTEL; AND VERA GRAU.

2. FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S USE IN CASE ANY QUESTIONS ARISE, WE HAVE BEEN OFFICIALLY INFORMED THAT DRS. CUBILLAS AND SALINAS TOTTEL WERE RELEASED IN NOVEMBER 1975. THE GOVERNMENT HAD SUSPECTED THEM OF BELONGING TO MOPOCO, AN ANTI-STROESSNER BRANCH OF THE COLORADO PARTY MOST OF WHOSE LEADERS LIVE EXILED IN ARGENTINA. CUBILLAS NOW OPERATES A PRIVATE CLINIC IN ASUNCION. SALINAS TOTTEL'S CURRENT WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN, BUT A RELIABLE SOURCE SAYS HE HAS NOT BEEN REARRESTED.

3. ROBERTO VERA GRAU WAS ARRESTED LATE IN 1974, TRIED IN NOVEMBER 1975, FOUND GUILTY OF BELONGING TO THE OUTLAWED COMMUNIST PARTY, AND SENTENCED TO THREE YEARS AT EMBOSCADA. HE IS THERE NOW. WE ARE PUZZLED THAT AMNESTY HAS IDENTIFIED HIM AS A MEDICAL DOCTOR, SINCE AS FAR AS WE KNOW THE ONLY DOCTOR AT  
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EMBOSCADA IS JORGE CANESE.

4. AMNESTY (IF THE POST ARTICLE IS COMPLETE) APPARENTLY HAS FAILED TO LIST EITHER CANESE OR JUAN FELIX BOGADO GONDRA, THE TWO DOCTORS WHOSE ARREST LAST JULY SHOOK THE MEDICAL PROFESSION HERE (AND ABOUT WHOM WE HAVE REPORTED EXTENSIVELY). CANESE IS AT EMBOSCADA; BOGADO GONDRA IS AT TACUMBU, THE MAIN PRISON IN ASUNCION.

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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